THE SCHOOL OFFICE WILL BE OPEN THIS SUMMER FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M. DURING JUNE AND AUGUST

THE ORBIT

THE SCHOOL OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED DURING JULY

JOHN GLENN ELEMENTARY

VOL. 2 ISSUE 4 FOURTH NINE WEEKS DONAHUE, IOWA

A GREAT YEAR AT JOHN GLENN!

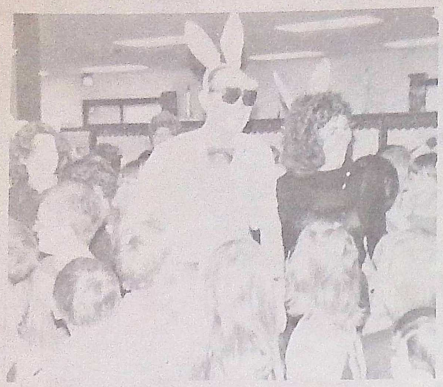
THE PRINCIPAL AND STUDENT COUNCIL EXTEND THEIR BEST WISHES TO ALL FOR A SAFE AND FUN-FILLED SUMMER. THANKS TO ALL STUDENTS, STAFF, AND PARENTS FOR HELPING TO MAKE THIS A GREAT YEAR.

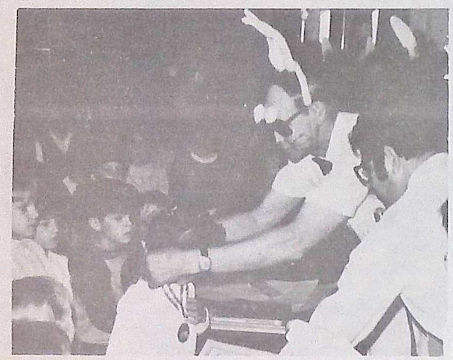
A PARTING THOUGHT

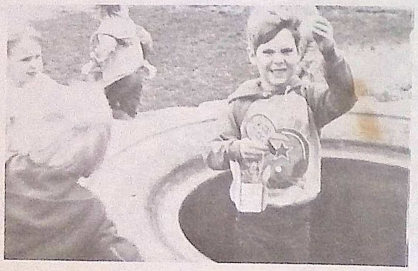
The sound of that first bugle call calling the students together for the first time to begin a new school year seems to have just faded. Here we are awaiting the final dismissal bell signaling an end to that school year. The school year has slipped by so quickly.

In looking back over the year, we note that it has been one filled with exciting experiences for our students. We note that this year's sixth grade leaves us not knowing what John Glenn would be like without Activity Period, Ecology Day, Student Store, Christmas parties, All - School Skating parties, Student Council and its activities, special assembly programs, and a host of other special activities for students. All these activities have been in existence all their school life. For most of us they have become an expected part of our routine. It is easy to forget that most of these special activities are funded on a year - to - year basis by our Room Parent Organization. We must constantly be aware that their fund-raising efforts, (Carnival, and Chili Supper), provide for an important part of our school's offering to kids. They have our gratitude and certainly will need the continued support of us all.

This year was also set aside as "Take Pride in Iowa Schools" year. We at John Glenn have a lot to be proud of; our Room Parent support group, our staff, and our students. Together we make up the best school in the state.







EASTER AT JOHN GLENN SCHOOL

While we were singing the school song during opening exercises, Peter Rabbit, (Delmar), and his three helpers, Flopsey, Mopsey, and Cottontail, (Mrs. Fleming, Mrs. McKinney, and Mrs. Kaczinski), came skipping down into the open area. Their faces were painted like bunnies and they had rabbit ears. Mr. Pagona read letters to Peter that were written by the students.

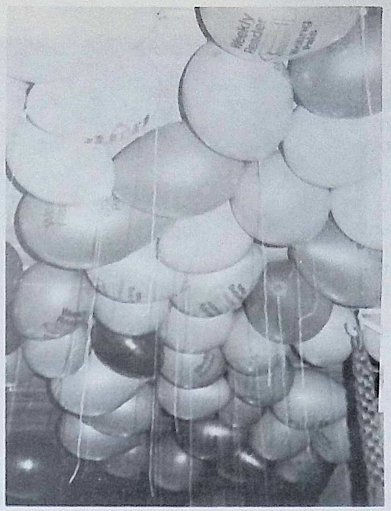
Heather Grove received a chocolate bunny for her Easter Poem. Stephanie Mc Donald received a kiss for her letter. Peter said that if the students were good in the lunchroom, he would give all the students a treat for Easter. The treat was a large jellybean for everyone.

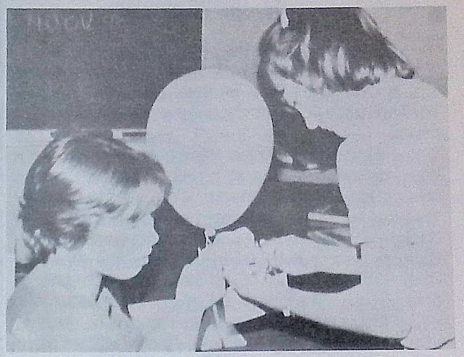
Read-a-thon medals, iron-ons, and certificates were passed out. The medals were gold, silver, and bronze.

At 10:00 a.m. the Kindergarten went out on the playground to hunt Easter eggs. The first and second graders went out at 10:30.

In the afternoon, each student sent off a weekly reader pen-pal balloon. The students wrote letters about themselves. These were attached to the balloon with a string. We hope that people will find them and send a letter bact to school. The school that receives tha most letters will get a prize. The school that gets the most letters from the farthest distance will get a prize also.

By Wendy Keppy





NEWSPAPER

Newspaper is an activity period. The people on the newspaper staff get information about things happening at school and put the information into stories.

The reason we have newspaper is so that the parents and students know what happens at school and so they can remember them.

The newspaper staff works on it during the activity period, noon hour, and any time they can.

The last nine weeks newspaper staff is:

Supervisor: Mr. Carrington
Staff: Kristen Bishop
Jennifer Corbin
Scott Furan
Janelle Hein
Michelle Hein
Dana Hoffmann
Angi Keppy
Wendy Keppy
Scott Kraft
Jill Marti
Kim McBride
Kelly McFate
Jeff McKinney
Lisa Sanders

By Wendy Keppy

THE OPERETTA

"Welcome to the show of the decade: The 1900 Music Hall Revue!" Those are the words that Mr. Ragona said at the beginning of our school's operetta this year.

Since Christmas vacation, everyone has worked very hard on the show. There was different scenery for every scene. thanks to Miss Balsar and her friend, Cookie Boccarossa. Mrs. Braunschweig, Delmar Mohr, Bob Williams and the Quad City Music Guild also helped with the operetta. They put in many long hours.

All students in the 4th, 5th, and 6th grades participated. Many had solos and speaking parts. All went well during the performance and everyone had a great time. The "Revue" was rated a real success!

Those with special parts were: (listed in order of appearance)

Michelle Holdorf	Melissa Lantz
Sarah Ohsann	Jenny Siemsen
Michelle Hein	Jeff Knapper
Andrew Tank	Mike Conard
Lisa Wiese	Jim Hinckley
Wendy Keppy	Scott Meyer
Ashley Frye	Susie Mathison
Jenny Nagy	Bekah Knapper
Kim McBride	Char Dwyer
Wendell Wuestenberg	
Danny Meyer	Jeff McKinney
Janine Baker	Mike Cirillo
Mike Greve	Jill Marti
Ann Newton	Dale Paustian
Bruce Shimp	Scott Drummond
Paul Hopkins	Doug McMurrin
Scott Furan	Bryce Knapper
Terry Schmidt	Clint Jones
Cindy Long	Billy Hendriks
Joanne Oertel	Kari Lake
Jenny Sailor	Chris Siebke
Denise Kaczinski	Kelly Tobias
Jenny Corbin	Mike Clark
Brad Van Blaricom	Debbie Ranson
John Smith	Tami Welsh
Angi Keppy	Kelly O'Connor
Krista Wiese	Shirley Wachlin
Dana Hoffmann	Janelle Hein

We would like to thank Miss Balsar and the staff and students who worked so hard to make this show a great success.

By Wendy Keppy
and
Jennifer Corbin

ECOLOGY DAY

Ecology Day started when Mrs. Erps took the open area students to Scott County Park. We didn't stay at Scott County Park because we couldn't stay all day.

We have had it the second Friday in May. Each group of kids have six different nature activities. We have Ecology Day because we think it is important that kids understand why we must help keep our environment safe to live in.

Kids learn about soil, trees, animals, water, insects, tracks, seeds, using a compass, and pond life.

Third, fourth, fifth, and sixth graders separate into four groups each, but the primary students study with their teachers.

On Ecology Day we had sloppy joes, jello, carrots and celery sticks, ice cream bars, and milk for lunch.

This year all the parents were invited to come and see what their kids do and learn about nature. You may think only John Glenn teachers were there, but that is wrong. The AEA Math Consultant, Science Consultant, many parents, Chuck Wester, and several Izaak Walton people helped out.

The people who organized all this are Mrs. Erps and Mr. Ragona.

By Angi Keppy
and
Janelle Hein

Answers to the Staff and Children Match

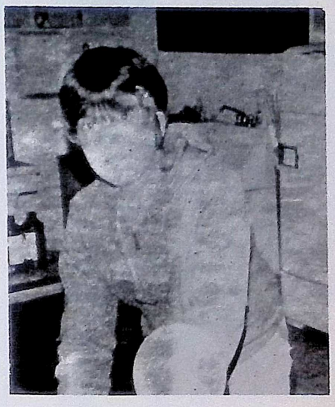
Mrs. Vernia	4	Andrew
Mrs. McKinney	9	Jon
Mr. Garrington	7	Amy
Mrs. Strickland	1	Shaun
Mrs. Kaczinski	5	Jeff
Mrs. Carlson	3	Travis
Mrs. Erps	6	Brenda
Mrs. Tobin	8	Jerry
Mrs. Wuestenberg	2	Mary Lou

MAKING HYDROGEN

We talked to our science teacher, Mrs. Erps, to find out how to make hydrogen. The 6th grade class was studying how to make gases. They made a gas called hydrogen. First you disolve metal in hydro-chloride acid, then collect gases in a balloon. Last you bubble the hydrogen into a jar of water and test with a flaming splint to see if you have made hydrogen. When the splint touches the hydrogen, the hydrogen will explode with a loud "pop".

The 6th grade enjoyed it because it was a lot of fun to put the hydrogen in a balloon and watch it make the balloon float. Joe DeSalvo made the most hydrogen to make his balloon float. It was very dangerous because we never knew if it would explode in our faces or not.

By Kim McBride
and
Kelly McFate



These children belong to the staff at our school. Can you match each child with his or her parents?

Mrs. Vernia _____

Mrs. McKinney _____

Mr. Carrington _____

Mrs. Strickland _____

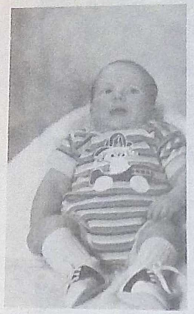
Mrs. Paczinski _____

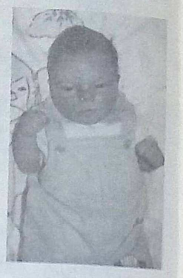
Mrs. Carlson _____

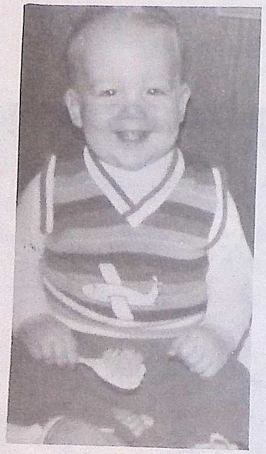
Mrs. Erps _____

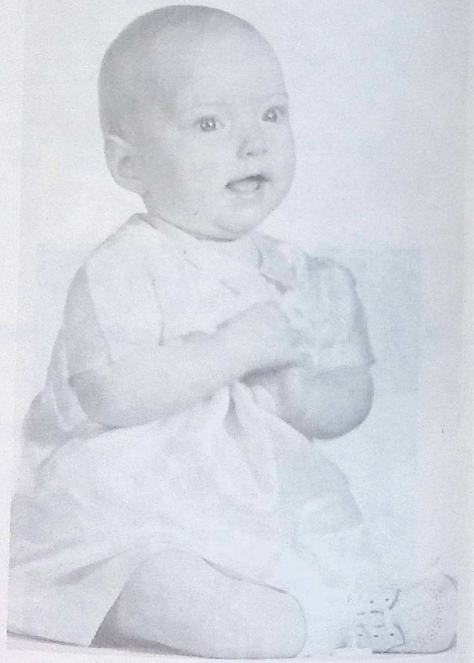
Mrs. Tobin _____

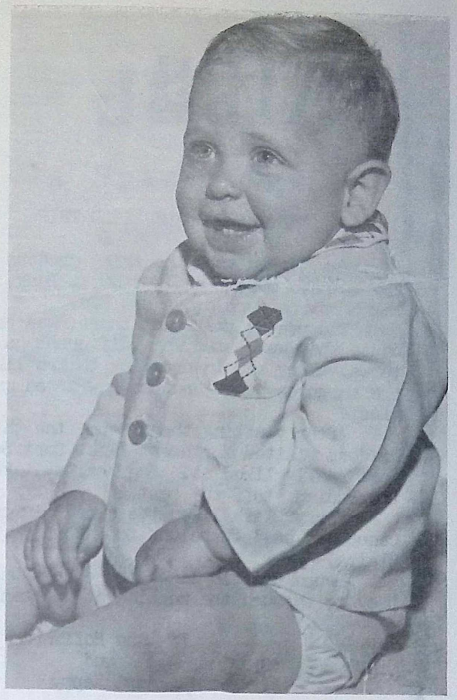
Mrs. Wuestenberg _____

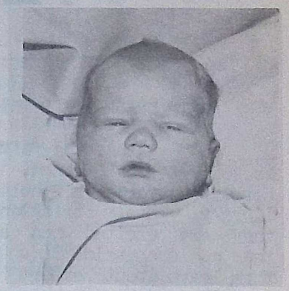


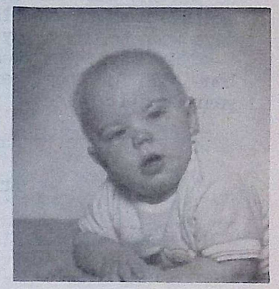


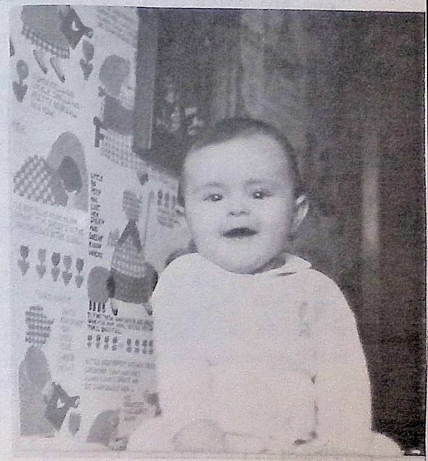












FIELD TRIPS

FIFTH GRADE FIELD TRIP

On May 22nd, the fifth grade is going to West Branch, Iowa to Herbert Hoover's birthplace and library. Mrs. Strickland said they were excited when she told them and she said it would help them learn about Herbert Hoover.

They can see what religion he was and what church he went to and see what it was like in the days when he was a boy.

She says the weather has been good for them, except one year when it rained.

By Janelle Hein
and
Kristen Bishop

REWARD FOR HELPERS

This year the store helpers, patrol, morning helpers, and student council members are going on a field trip as a reward for working.

They could vote for swimming, an all day picnic, boat ride, Show Biz Pizza, or roller skating. They voted and had a three-way tie. It was all-day picnic, swimming, and boat ride. They voted again and decided to go swimming. After that they will get a sundae. They will be going by bus.

Mr. Pagona is going swimming with the kids. They will swim indoors. The date they are going is the 20th of May. They will be at Blackhawk College for the swim and Happy Joe's for the sundae.

By Kelly McFate
and
Dana Hoffmann

THE THIRD GRADE FIELD TRIP

Mrs. Tobin took the third graders to the Putname Museum and Northwest Bank.

Mrs. Seifert drove the bus.

The reason they went there, was because they were studying different cultures. They saw interesting things like the shrunken heads and the unwrapped mummies.

After visiting the museum, the third graders visited Northwest Bank. Dori Seifert really liked it. She really liked the Indian stuff the best.

Kerry Clark liked the sword in the cane that used to belong to Antoine Le Claire.

Bruce Griffin liked the checks when they go through the machine at the bank.

By Dana Hoffmann
and
Angi Keppy

THE SECOND GRADERS FIELD TRIP

The second grade class took a field trip April 30th. They went to the Central Fire Station in Davenport.

Mrs. Porth said her kids were very excited about going on the first field trip of the year.

After the fire station, they took a tour of the Pioneer Village at Scott County Park. At the end of the trip, they played in the park.

By Angi Keppy
and
Kristen Bishop

JGE

In Space Age

ROCKETS

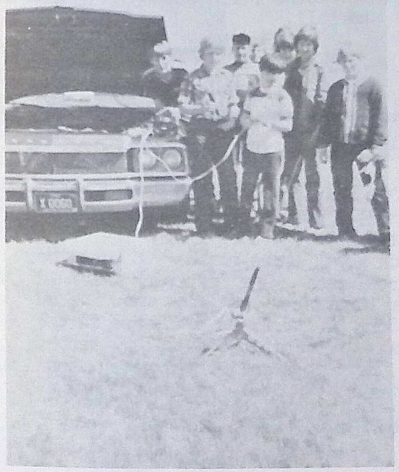
This nine weeks many students have been launching rockets at noon. The rocket engines are put into the rocket with two wires sticking out. Then these wires are attached to the ignition system. Mr. Carrington attaches the whole thing to a car battery.

The rockets go very high. Mr. Garrington said that some go up as high at 1,500 feet.

We have been very lucky this year. Only two rockets have been lost. Both of them belonged to Mr. Carrington.

The rockets with parachutes come down slowly but sometimes the wind makes them drift a long way and get lost. The rockets with streamers come almost straight down and also go higher.

Mr. Garrington said the most dangerour things were rockets whose fins were not on right, because they don't fly straight and could hurt somebody.



SUMMER PLANS

We asked some teachers and students what their summer plans were.

Mrs. McKinney said they were going to Minnesota and Wisconsin and putting new kitchen cabinets in.

Jennifer Corbin said she was going to the fair for 4H, have a county presentation, and go swimming a lot.

Mr. McQuary said, "Play golf, tennis, swim, work on a suntan, and get his sanity back."

Mrs. Kelding said she will go to summer school, and clean house.

Sharon Kling said she will go to Six Flags, horse back riding, and swimming.

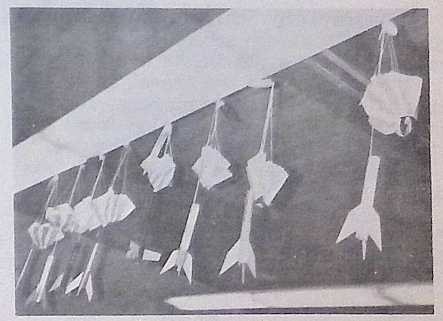
Becky Brannam said her family was going to go swimming, roller skating, plant a garden, and cut wood for next winter.

Delmar said, "Clean the school for us next year."

Mrs. Tobin said she was going to lots of ball games, enjoy the sun, and clean the house.

Chris Grell said he was going to Kansas and play baseball.

Mrs. Christoff said she was going to work on her garden.



GREEN HOUSE

There are about 12 kids in the Green House Activity Period. They go to Mr. Ragona's green house. They plant flowers and garden plants like tomatoes and green peppers. They also planted flowers for the school flower bed.

Mr. Ragona and his students hope that the plants and flowers will be successful and make John Glenn a more beautiful place.

By Janelle Hein
and
Lisa Sanders

KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP

Tuesday, May 5th, was the Kindergarten Round-Up at our school. Twenty kids registered: 10 girls and 10 boys.

Mrs. Brock and Mr. Leavel asked the kids if they knew their numbers, letters, and colors. These people also found out if the kids were right or left handed.

Mrs. Boeding, our school nurse, was there to check their eyes.

It was from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. There were refreshments served by Mrs. Hein, Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Jamison, Mrs. Peel, and Mrs. Murphy.

We, on the Orbit staff, would like to welcome the new students to John Glenn.

By Jill Marti

FIELD DAY

On Tuesday, May 12th, the 6th grade goes to Field Day. They compete against Edward White, Neil Armstrong, Virgil Grissom, and Alan Shepard. The 5th graders go to field day on the 13th and the 4th graders go on the 14th of May.

The 4th and 5th grades compete against the same schools. The students perform in a variety of running, throwing, and jumping activities. The ribbons are for first to fifth places and all who participate get a certificate.

Mr. McQuary thinks that our best events are the cageball relay, the atlas toss, and mostly throwing events. He thinks that our worst events are mostly running ones.

We asked Mr. McQuary why do we have Field Day? He said, "So you can get a chance to compete against one another and so you can meet new kids.

We asked Chris Martin if she was excited about going to Field Day. She said, "Yes, because it's my first time."

Ian Mepham said, "It's fun because you can win ribbons. I like the hurdle relay and saucer fling."

We asked Travis Ralfs, "Are you excited about going to Field Day this year?" He said, "Yes, because it's fun running."

Janelle Hein said, "I like the water balloon toss because I like getting wet!"

Becky Brannam says, "I like the 3-legged race because I like to watch people trip and fall."

By Michelle Hein
and
Jill Marti

FISH TANK

Somebody broke in the school building about 3 months ago and knocked the fish tank over. This killed the fish. It took about three months to get the tank replaced. The fish rank was paid for by insurance.

Some of the kinds of fishes in the new tank are miniature catfish, zebra, guppy, newt, gourani, algae eater, and swordtails. The temperature of the water in the fish tank is 75° to 80° F. or 25° C.

By Scott Kraft,
Scott Furan,
and
Jeff McKinney

BUS PROBLEMS

There are many bus problems. Some of them are moving around on the bus, yelling, shooting rubberbands, talking too loud, improper language, eating, running, jumping over seats, and throwing things, including spitwads and food.

What do the bus drivers do about this? The first time bad students are given a warning. The second time they are put in the front seat. The third time they are taken to Mr. Ragona.

You may be kept off the bus for three days. Mrs. Fleming says that there were only three people kicked off the bus this year.

Mr. Ragona would like everyone to remember that no squirt guns are allowed on the bus on the last day of school.

By Michelle Hein
and
Jennifer Corbin

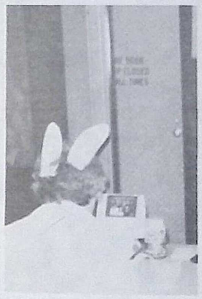
BICYCLE SAFETY

Half of the 5th Grade had Bicycle Safety this nine weeks. The other half had it last quarter. Mrs. Strickland says it is very fun and the children learn the rules of the road. She likes teaching it very much.

About two weeks ago they made folders and pictures of a bicycle they would like to invent. They have watched movies on defensive driving and they are going to study it some more.

They're going to learn some of the safety equipment they can put on their bike. Mrs. Strickland hopes to have a couple of town kids ride to school on their bikes and demonstrate bicycle safety.

JOKE TIME



Hey, good buddy,

you got your ears on?

Looks to me like we'll have to put a hole in Mr. G's ceiling.

Knock, Knock.
Who's there?
Wendy
Wendy who?
Wendy joke is finished, you'd better laugh.

Grayson: I've got a stomach ache.
Cabot: That's because you haven't eaten. Your stomach is empty, so it hurts.
Grayson: So that's why Ricky has headaches all the time!

Now, tell me again....Why did that first grader bite your hand?

READ SOME BOOKS

LITTRATURE FESTIVAL

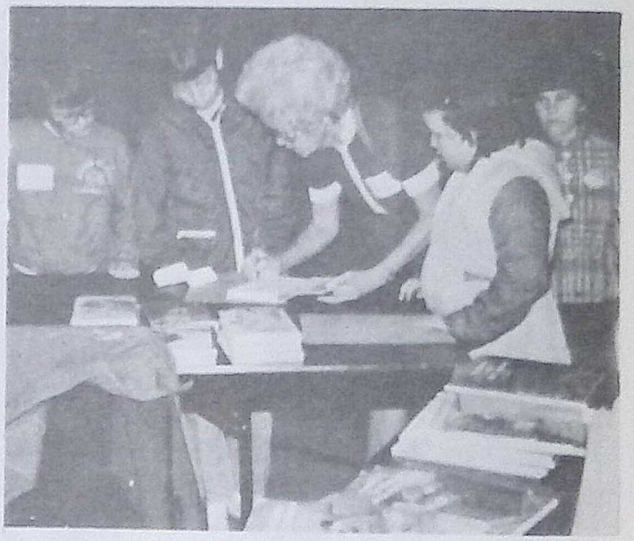
We went to Blackhawk College in Moline, Illinois. One person from each class (3 - 6) went: Jim Hinckley, Lisa Sanders, Mike Reese, and Sarah Siemsen. Each session was a half hour long. Some authors that we listened to were Mary Kay Phelan, Judy Bond Hansen, and Dave Collins. Mrs. Schwaninger went with us.

Mary Kay Phelan talked about how long it takes for research. It took her 1-1½ years for "The Great Chicago Fire". She likes writing for children.

It took Judy Bond Hansen about 3-4 years for research on the book, "Spirit of the Winding Water," a book about Indians.

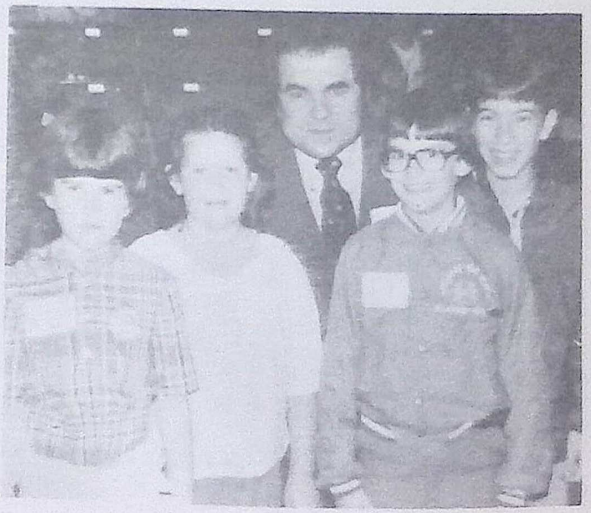
Dave Collins is a teacher at Moline Junior High. He was very funny. He liked writing. He said, "The title on a report is the most important part."

All of these authors like writing for children.



OWING MONEY

We asked Mr. Ragona, Mrs. McGrath, Mrs. Kaczinski, and Mrs. McKinney about owing money. All the teachers never had an over-due payment. The biggest problem with owing money, is not asking their parents for the money, forgetting to bring the money, and some don't take it serious. Students usually have to take notes home to remind them.

The problem Mrs. McGrath has is when the bookmobile comes. She says some of her students have to pay for the books they have lost. The books cost $5.00 to $10.00. Then Mrs. McGrath said that seven books have been lost and paid for so far this year. She hopes no more will be lost.

By Dana Hoffmann
and
Kelly McFate